WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **Salmon Creek Wetland Enhancement**

2. Name of applicant: **The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Kyle Guzlas
48 Devonshire Road
Montesano, WA 98563
(360) 249-4628 x.241

4. Date checklist prepared: **May 22, 2009**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **WDFW**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Phase I – June 2009, Phase II – August 2009**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

NA

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

All permits are pending at the time of submission of this SEPA

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

JARPA, County Exemption for Road Re-surfacing (correspondence attached, Critical Areas – Jefferson County)

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

Consistent with the wildlife area management plan WDFW proposes to conduct a wetland enhancement project on approximately 3-4 acres on the Salmon Creek Unit. This project will raise a small portion of the existing field access roadway for approximately 400' and install a water control structure on the a 36" culvert that is currently present. This small ephemeral agricultural ditch/swale is currently dominated by reed canary grass and provides little benefit for wildlife. Currently, there is no fish utilization in this small channel due to the low flows, connectivity to Salmon Creek, and presence of dense vegetation inside the channel. The combination of re-surfacing the roadway and installation of a half-riser, stop-log, water control structure will allow for a portion of this field to be flooded. This will create approximately 3-4 acres of wetland habitat that can be managed for the benfit of wildlife.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Highway 101 north, just after Hwy 20 (Toward Port Townsend) take a left on W. Uncas Road. Follow for approximately .3 of a mile and make left at WDFW sign toward the two barns.
S 23, T29N, R2W
Map attached

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . . .

WDFW has owned this property for approximately 6 years. The property contains several vegetation components including open pasture, forested riparian buffer on Salmon Creek and tributaries, and Discovery Bay mudflats. The location of this project primarily deals with a wet, reed canary grass dominated pasture on approximately 4 acres.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Within the project vicinity - <5%

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Agricultural soils - **Soils-H**

Rec	MUSYM	MUKEY	MUNAME
1	Bh	73718	Belfast silt loam, heavy variant

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

NA

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

No

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

0%

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Will utilize any and all BMP's during construction to minimize any impacts

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Dust and emissions from heavy equipment during road re-surfacing

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Road re-surfacing will be conducted when wind rates are low to reduce dust impacts. Water will be sprayed on the project area throughout re-surfacing phase to minimize dust impacts.

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

There is a small Ns (no-fish, seasonal) agricutltural ditch/swale directly associated with this project. This small channel connects to Salmon Creek near its mouth at Discovery Bay.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

The project will occur within the described waters above, however will be greater than 200 ft. from Salmon Creek.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

A small water control structure will be placed on the end of a 36" culvert (description attached Appendix B).

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

When in-stream construction occurs the channel will most likely be dry, and absent from any flow. If there is a small flow, a small sand bag coffer dam will be constructed and the site will be de-watered during construction.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

NA

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

NA

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

NA

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

Road re-surfacing will be conducted on forecasted dry days eliminating the potential for run-off

4. **Plants**

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

——— deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

——— evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

——— shrubs

——— grass

——— pasture

——— crop or grain

——— wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

——— water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

——— other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

None

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None within project area.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

None

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
None within the scope of the project

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

This is a wetland enhancement project. This project will increase the wetland area available to numerous species of migratory waterfowl, neotropical migrants, and amphibians.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

NA

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

NA

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Heavy equipment will be utilized for re-surfacing the roadway. The potential for spill is always possible; however BMP's will be utilized to minimize this potential impact.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

BMP's will be implemented at all times of this project to limit and/or prevent any environmental health hazards.

b. **Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

Heavy equipment noise during road-resurfacing phase.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.
Noise will be limited to several days of heavy equipment operation during normal work hours. This will have little, if any impact on adjacent landowners.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Listed in question #2

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The property is a part of the Olympic/Willapa Hills Wildlife Area referred to as the Snow/Salmon Creek Unit. This property is undergoing several ongoing restoration and enhancement projects (riparian buffer planting, estuary restoration, etc.). The property is open to the public for recreational activities. Approximately 40 acres are farmed for hay through an agreement with a private landowner.
The lower Salmon Creek valley is primarily an agricultural use area including several hundred acres dedicated to grazing and hay operations along with a few small row crop operations.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

Yes. Prior to WDFW ownership the property was primarily used for cattle grazing and hay-cutting operations.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There are two barn-like buildings (pole barn and metal sided building) located on the property. There is one main rocked access road that is closed to the public for vehicluar access, but is utilized intensly by department staff for a variety of reasons including agricultural activities, fish trap monitoring, riparian and estuarine buffer maintenenance, etc. There is one 36" culvert on this roadway that drains a small field ditch/swale to the south of the roadway.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Agricultural Land - Vacant Land

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The Snow/Salmon Unit of the Olympic/Willapa Hills Wildlife Area is managed by WDFW.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

NA

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

Unknown

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

NA

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

NA

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

NA

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

This parcel is included in the North Olympic Wildlife Area Management Plan , which is an appendix to the Olympic-Willapa Hills Wildlife Area Management Plan.

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

NA

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

NA

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

NA

10. **Aesthetics**

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

NA

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

NA

11. **Light and glare**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None

12. **Recreation**

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The Snow Creek/Salmon Creek unit is 156 acres located at the confluence of Snow and Salmon creeks at Discovery Bay. It was acquired for stream, riparian, and estuarine restoration and protection. Habitat types include scrub-shrub wetland, marsh wetland, forested wetland, wet upland meadows, upland and estuary.

Viewing Opportunities

Birds	*Mammals*	*Other*
☐ **Birds of Prey**	☐ **Deer**	☐ **Butterflies**
☐ **Eagles**	☐ **Elk**	☐ **Reptiles/Amphibians**
☐ **Shorebirds**	☐ **Small Mammals**	☐ **Spawning Salmon**
☐ **Songbirds**		☐ **Wildflowers**

- **Upland Birds**
- **Wading Birds**
- **Waterfowl**

This area has an extensive estuary and riparian restoration in progress. Good opportunity to observe summer chum salmon spawning. Good bird watching opportunities.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

NA

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Historic barn on the property, however this is not affected in any way by this project

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

No impacts are present. The project area occurs within agricultural fields that have been grazed and farmed for over 50 years.

14. **Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Shown on map – nearest Public Street is W. Uncas Road which connects to Hwy. 101

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

NA

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

This project involves re-surfacing approximately 400' of existing road.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

Materials are all on-site for this project – no vehicular trips above normal on state or county roadways will be necessary.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

NA

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: (electricity), natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None

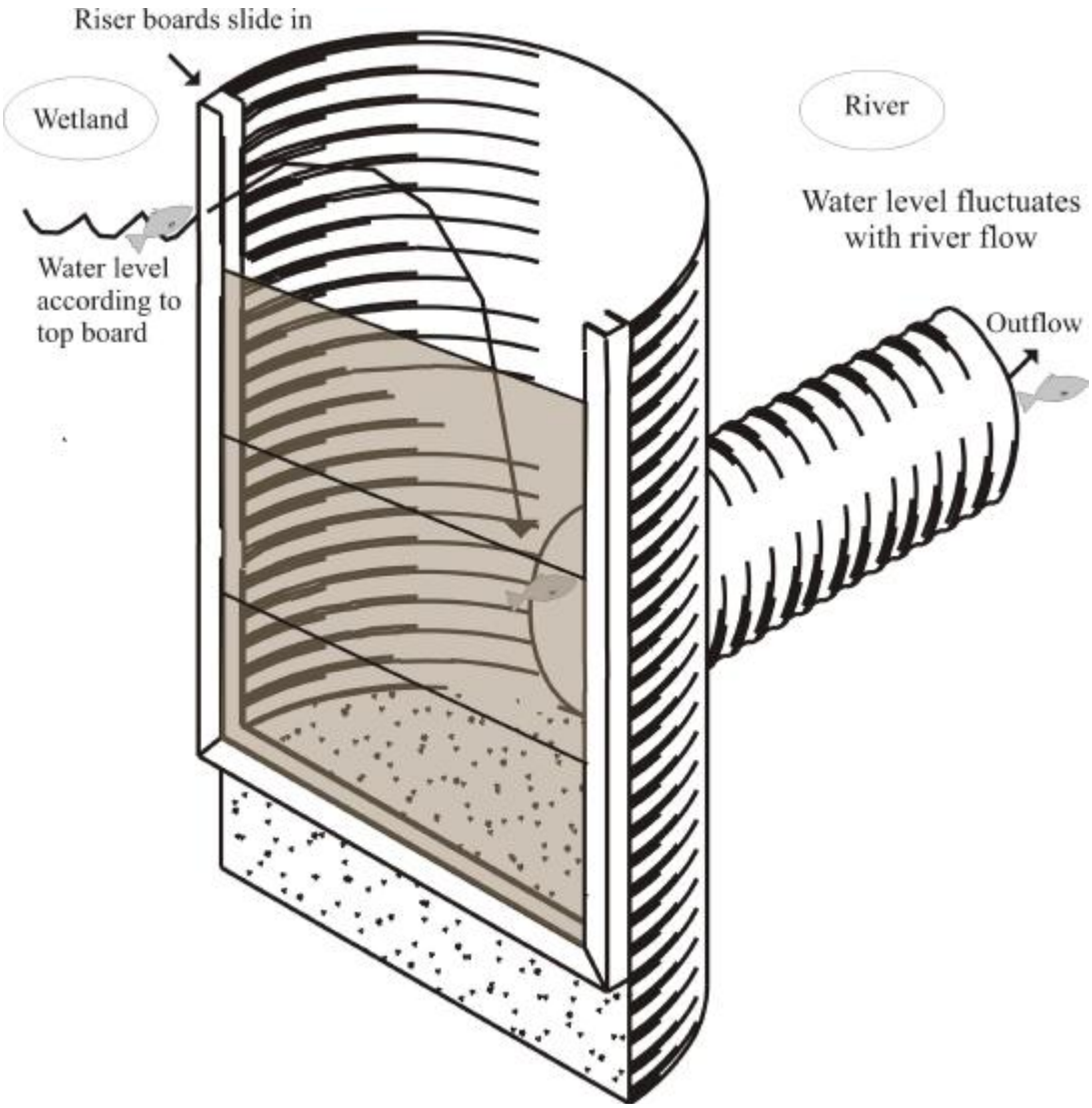
C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: ON FILE .....

Date Submitted: 5/22/2009.....

Appendix B – Half-Riser, Stoplog Water Control Structure



Flashboard Risers